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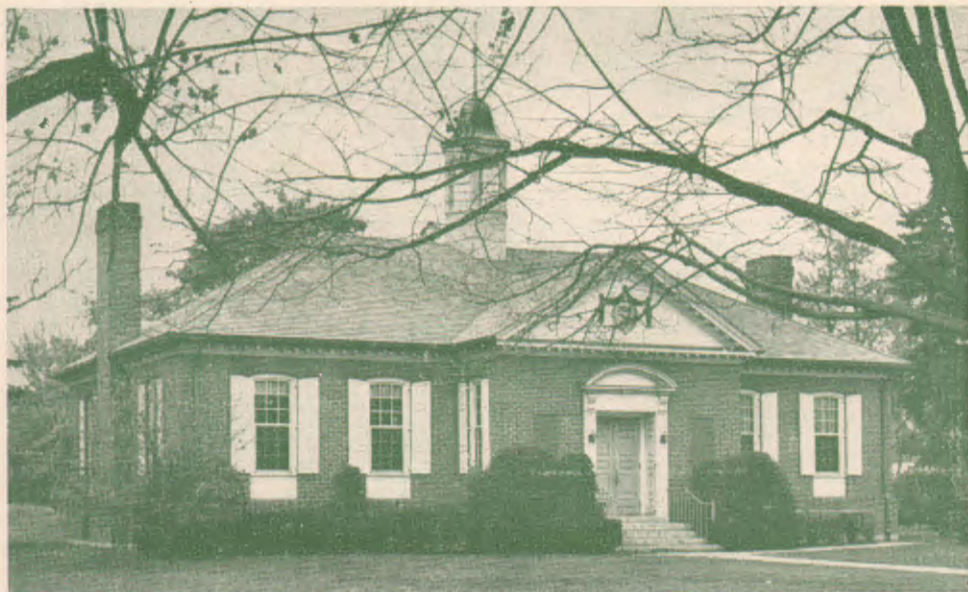
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BULLETIN

of the

RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



WEAVER MEMORIAL LIBRARY



EAST PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island Library Association Spring Meeting

TUESDAY, MAY 24, 1955 - 41 GROVE AVENUE - EAST PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Program of the Meeting

- 10:15—Registration
10:30—Business Meeting
11:00—"Justification for support of local libraries"
Mr. William J. Deegan, Jr., former City Manager of Quincy, Massachusetts
12:—Lunch, Haven Methodist Church, 170 Taunton Avenue
2:00—"Contemporary Irish Literature"
Dr. Grace Sherrer, Associate Professor of English, University of Rhode Island
3:00—"Changing Conceptions of Mental Illness"
Dr. Paul Daston, Psychiatrist, Brockton Veteran's Hospital, Brockton, Massachusetts
4:00—Tea

OUR SPEAKERS

William J. Deegan, Jr. was the first City Manager of Quincy. At the time of his appointment in 1950 he was City Manager of Superior, Wisconsin. At present he is executive vice-president of Structo-Schools Corporation.

Dr. Grace Sherrer earned her Ph.D. degree from Western Reserve University. She has travelled widely in Europe and the United States. For the last three years she has been doing research on Neo-Platonism, and this has taken her to Europe each summer. This past summer she carried on research in Dublin, Belfast and London.

Dr. Paul Daston is a graduate of Northeastern University College of Liberal Arts, 1948. In 1952 he obtained his doctorate at Michigan State University.

DIRECTIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Buses marked TAUNTON AVENUE, STATE LINE or SIX CORNERS, leave Dorrance and Westminster Streets at 9:20 and 9:50 A.M. The stop you want is the East Providence Town Hall. Grove Avenue runs in back of the hall, and the library at 41 Grove can be reached easily from here. Those who are in cars may park at the rear of the Haven Methodist Church at 170 Taunton Avenue. It is best to approach by turning on James Street opposite the Town Hall and taking the next right to the rear of the church.

LUNCH

A noon lunch will be served at the Haven Methodist Church. Reservation postals will be sent to members and a reply by May 19 is asked so that final plans may be completed. The price of the meal will be \$1.50 and will include fruit juice, roast turkey and ice cream.

WEAVER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Weaver Memorial Library, known before 1938 as the Watchemoket Free Public Library, was started in 1870 and charged six cents per volume per week. The group of women responsible for the operation of the library had one aim, to have a free library for all. Their dream did not materialize until 1890, due to lack of funds and loss of collection by fire. The Watchemoket Free Public Library Association made it possible to lay the foundation for this present library and they worked untiringly for its support. When Mrs. Susan Anthony left a library building to the town, in memory of her mother, Mrs. Susan Weaver, both members of the association, the library then became the responsibility of the Town of East Providence. The WFPLA no longer has charge of its operation but continues to function and have interest in the library and its development. The library is now open daily, has a collection of 24,000 volumes and circulates about 80,000 volumes annually.

CAROLINE A. BOWEN, *Librarian*

SURVEY OF RHODE ISLAND LIBRARIES

Prior to the publication of this issue of the Bulletin a copy of a survey and reasons for its being sent were mailed to the various public libraries in Rhode Island. The purpose behind this survey is a simple one. It is to give the association a clear picture of library services and facilities in the state.

What are our weaknesses? Where does our strength lie? Is there a definite pattern for the whole state or possibly varied patterns for geographical subdivisions? These are questions which require up-to-date information on which to base intelligent answers. The replies, we feel, will furnish the means by which a careful evaluation may be made.

The Rhode Island Library Association is, to be sure, available as a clearing house of information. It has also, according to the constitution, the stated purpose of promoting the interests of libraries and librarians in this state. If the survey indicates there are areas where assistance is needed, constructive efforts to provide remedies will be made.

With its finger on the pulse of library services, the association hopes to continue to offer its members assistance wherever and whenever it is needed.

WALTER CURDEY, *President*

EXTENSION COURSE IN LIBRARY SCIENCE

The Division of University Extension of the University of Rhode Island is contemplating offering a sixteen week course next fall in library service. The first five lectures would be devoted to problems of book selection and ordering including sources for book ordering and a lecture on the discarding and obsolescence of books. The next seven lectures would be devoted to cataloging and classification with some practice in the use of the Dewey Decimal Classification system and elementary rules for cataloging following the principles outlined in the American Library Association Code. The thirteenth and fourteenth lectures will deal with services to children and young people. Reference books and services will be the subject of the last two lectures. A few specific titles will be discussed and certain techniques of reference will be reviewed.

Tentative plans are for the class to meet Wednesday nights, 7:00-9:00 in the Meeting Room of the Providence Public Library, with the first hour being used for a lecture and the second hour for laboratory work and actual handling of certain library tools. The Librarian of the University of Rhode Island, Francis Allen, will do the major portion of the lecturing but hopes to bring in specialists to discuss certain fields such as services to children.

This course is a step toward improving professional standards in Rhode Island Libraries and the Rhode Island Library Association hopes the current interest will continue to flourish along these lines.

LIBRARY SERVICES BILL

On January 10, Senator Lister Hill introduced the Library Services Bill. The bill has had a long series of introductions back to the 82nd Congress, but thus far has not passed.

It is essentially a measure to rehabilitate and stimulate library development in the rural areas of the United States. The Bill provides for an appropriation of \$7,500,000 each year for five years. Each state would receive a basic \$40,000 and then the remainder would be distributed to the states on the basis of their rural population as compared to the national rural population. These federal funds would have to be matched by the states on the basis of state per capita income as compared to the national per capita income.

The time is ripe for librarians and patrons to write to their congressmen telling them the value of the bill to their area.

BULLETIN
of the
RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION

R.I.L.A. BULLETIN COMMITTEE

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R. I. College of Pharmacy
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Brown University
MRS. ISABEL MOWRY
East Providence Free Library

Vol. 27

MAY, 1955

No. 1

Rhode Island Libraries

Brown University Library

The growth of the John Hay Collection has been rapid since its establishment last fall, following Mrs. James W. Wadsworth's gift of an important collection of her father's, John Hay's, journals and other manuscripts. Mr. W. Easton Louttit, Jr., has given the Collection some of the choicest items from his John Hay collection in addition to several scores of letters written by John Hay to his friends and colleagues. Mr. Louttit's gift includes a manuscript of Chapters 1-17 of *The Bread-Winners*, the novel which John Hay published anonymously in the *Century* magazine and which later was published in book form by Harpers. The manuscript, which is in the holograph of two or three copyists, contains many corrections and additions in John Hay's hand and was used by the printer of the *Century*. Another fine item in Mr. Louttit's gift is a unique copy of *The Poet in Exile, Early Letters of John Hay*, edited by Miss Caroline Ticknor and published by Houghton Mifflin in 1910. In this little volume Miss Ticknor published five letters which John Hay wrote to Miss Nora Perry of Providence between August 30, 1858 and March 4, 1860.

Miss Perry was a member of Mrs. Sarah Helen Whitman's literary circle and had encouraged John Hay to follow a literary career. The volume includes also John Hay's poems "Parted" and "In the Mist," which he had sent to Miss Perry for her to criticize. Mr. Louttit's copy of this volume contains the original letters and manuscript of the poems.

From Mrs. Caresse Crosby, publisher of the Black Sun Press, the Library has received as a gift twenty-five volumes, ten of which contain the manuscript notes (poems in their first drafts, notes on travel and reading) of her late husband, Harry Crosby. The remaining volumes include corrected page proofs and several of Mr. Crosby's published works. An account of the Black Sun Press and its owners by Mrs. Millicent Bell of the Department of English has recently been published by the Friends of the Brown University Library.

The Lincoln Collection has recently acquired the first known separately printed bit of Lincoln's writings. It is a folded sheet of paper, containing three pages of text. In the 1838/39 session of the Illinois legislature, Lincoln was the Whig floor leader in the House and on January 17, 1839, Lincoln, from the Committee on Finance, made a report on the subject of the public lands of Illinois. The problem was to raise additional money to continue the state's internal improvement program. Lincoln's proposal was that the Federal government sell to the state the unsold public lands within the state's borders at twenty-five cents an acre. The state would then sell the land to individuals at the government price of \$1.25 an acre, thus realizing a tidy profit. While the Illinois legislature approved the resolution, the Federal government did nothing and the project was dropped. Lincoln's report first appeared in the journals of the Illinois legislature and then was reprinted from them as a little leaflet. This letter is the first item in the Monaghan bibliography of Lincolniana and the item which has just been added to the McLellan Lincoln Collection.

Barrington Public Library

Our greatest accomplishment this year has been the redecorating and rearranging of the Children's Room. It is the first redecorating since the building was built. We chose a soft blue for the walls, pink for the ceiling and old rose with gold thread for the drapes. High school students made book shelves to fit in the alcove for books for the little tots and a magazine rack which we have needed for years. We have moved the furniture around in an attempt to make more room and to do away with the dark spots in the room. Because we need more room for books, we have gone over the whole collection and moved the less popular books to the basement. That has involved a great deal of card stamping.

The Junior League has been conducting a Music Appreciation Hour for the children of the lower grades. This project and the Story Hour are held on alternate weeks. We are sorry to say that neither is as popular as they should be.

Otherwise, our work goes on much the same as in other years. Our circulation continues to increase. Patrons are crying for more books and duplicate copies of books, and the schools expect more and more from us, and it is a question of where to put the extra books and where to get the staff to handle the additional work.

SUSAN E. DEMERY,
Librarian

Davisville Free..Library

During the past year the library has had a new furnace and an interior paint job. Plans are under way for a joint library and PTA meeting in the fall to get better acquainted with the library and to discuss books and other features which will be of more help to the children of the community.

We have also been working with the teen-age group who are the most faithful and interested patrons in the community.

MARION BARBER,
Librarian

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East Greenwich Free Library

Last Spring the first exhibition of pictures by the Kent County Camera Club was shown at the Library. In February, 1955 the second annual exhibit was displayed and gave considerable pleasure to the viewers. Both subject matter and artistry were most interesting. This show and the Journal-Bulletin photographs were both great drawing mediums for the library.

It has been a very successful year for our Story Hour for children each Saturday morning at 10:00, October through March. Mrs. Mae Kennedy, assistant librarian, tells the stories and has a nice little following of enthusiastic listeners ranging in age from four to ten. She uses recordings to augment and vary the story telling and this practice has proved very successful.

MARTHA R. MCPARTLAND,
Librarian

Narragansett Library Association

This library is celebrating its centennial anniversary in two ways. First, the trustees are making a drive for additional funds. Secondly, the friends of the library are putting on a series of informal programs and parties to interest people in the library and are planning them along the lines of our early library days. The local players group is in charge of these entertainments.

END THOMPSON,
Librarian

Rhode Island Historical Society

Our library has continued to add to its collection by purchase and gift. Among important acquisitions are: LOG of the Ship *General Washington* of Providence, kept on the first voyage from Rhode Island to the Far East; and LOGS of two other East Indiamen the Ships *Ann and Hope*, and *Resource*.

We have also added a number of early Rhode Island Imprints the most important of which is the earliest known Broadside printed by Solomon Southwick at Newport in 1776, describing the sudden flight of the British Army and Navy from Boston.

On January 31 we were pleased to have as our guests, members of the Staff of the Libraries at Brown University.

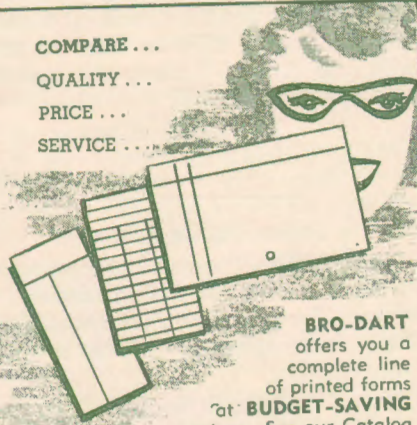
Miss Louise Huling has recovered from an operation and is now back at John Brown House.

Rhode Island Medical Society Library

The medical librarians of Providence have published the 2nd edition of the UNION LIST OF MEDICAL JOURNALS. This list covers periodicals currently received. It does not attempt to show the complete holdings of the various libraries. We plan to publish a supplement to the UNION LIST once a year. This new list was printed through the courtesy of Brown University and copies may be obtained there at the Biological Sciences Library.

HELEN DEJONG, *Librarian*

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Rhode Island School of Design Library

This has been a year of record book circulation as well as general increased activity in the use of the Library for reference and research purposes, attributed to the introduction of certain academic courses in the curriculum and to a more mature approach on the part of the students in our varied resources. Subject-wise the major interest of our faculty and students has been in the Fine Arts, with Graphic Arts, Decorative Arts and Industrial Arts following in order.

We have been particularly fortunate in being the recipient of several outstanding gifts, among which were the art library of the late Henry D. Sharpe, given through Mrs. Henry D. Sharpe, and a handsome eighteenth century "fete" book published in 1749 on the occasion of the birth of the first son of Charles III of Spain, presented by Mr. and Mrs. Henry D. Sharpe, Jr.

Mr. Americo Izzi, Library Preparator, who has been on leave of absence since March 3, 1953 in order to serve with the Armed Forces, rejoined the staff on April 4, 1955.

JEANNE MACCREADY,
Librarian

Union Public Library

The Union Public Library observed its one hundred thirty-fifth birthday in March. The one big achievement of the library association for the year is a new library ceiling.

EDNA S. SNELL,
Librarian

Westerly Public Library

One of the most interesting new developments at the Westerly Public Library during the past year has been the formation of a Senior Citizens Club. This group, which numbers about 80, is highly informal and the only requirement for membership is that each person must be sixty or over. The only officials of the club are a committee of four which serve for a month, planning the weekly programs. These range from a magician's show, an old-time clothing exhibit, to talks on contemporary subjects.

The Museum at the Library has had a year of novel exhibits. One of the most attractive was entitled "Do You Remember?", composed of dolls, fashions and toys of other years. An entire room was set up at one end of the museum, complete with popcorn-and-cranberry strung Christmas tree, visiting aunts, young children, and their Christmas gifts. A showing of modern art by students at the University of Rhode Island also attracted many visitors, and a display of beautiful items collected by Mrs. Helen Joy Lee in her travels the world over has also been extremely popular.

The local radio station, WERI, has been conducting a series of Sunday afternoon programs of classical music, played on records borrowed from the Library's fast-growing record collec-

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tion. Throughout the program the announcer mentioned special services and features of the Library that are available to the community.

Over 200 children were enrolled in the summer reading project. This was in the form of a yacht race, with a huge racing course laid out in the Children's Room, and each entrant given a brightly colored yacht to move from marker to marker as books were read. A travel club is just starting for the young readers, with flags for each youngster marking big wall maps.

Two extension courses have been given by the University of Rhode Island during the past year. The first, with 18 enrolled members, was in Sociology, and the current one is in social psychology.

SALLIE E. COY,
Librarian

New England Library Association

At the business meeting of the New England Library Association held at the New Ocean House, Swampscott, Mass., October 20, 1954, the following officers were elected: President, Helen A. Ridgway, State Department of Education, Hartford, Conn.; Vice-president, Richard W. Morin, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire; Secretary, Virginia Fooks, Providence Public Library, Providence, R. I.; Treasurer, Marjorie R. Shaw, Public Library, Milton, Mass.; Director, Mrs. Mary E. Marston, Free Public Library, Skowhegan, Maine; Director, Dorothy Ran-

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dolph, Free Public Library Commission, Montpelier, Vermont. Past president (ex officio) Sidney Butler Smith, University of Vermont. Burlington, Vermont is also a member of the Board.

The next meeting of the Association will be held at the New Ocean House in October, 1956.

Education for Librarianship A Lively Issue

Five groups interested in library education, so important to the library world, met in Chicago, January 31st, 1955. Sponsored by the Council of National Library Associations (CNLA) Joint Committee on Library Education, the meeting was limited to the members of the ALA Board of Education for Librarianship, the CNLA Joint Committee on Library Education and its Sub-Committee on Special Library Education, and the Officers and Executive Boards of American Library Schools and the ALA Division of Library Education.

Among those speaking was Jack Dalton who discussed the present status of the accreditation program of the ALA Board of Education for Librarianship. He said that some of the schools previously accredited may not be able to meet new standards but the Board is obligated to withhold accreditation if facilities are not available to meet these standards. He pointed out that the present evaluation program of fifth year curricula will terminate June 30, 1957. The Board of Education for Li-

brarianship is now initiating studies looking forward to the creation of standards to cover undergraduate library science training on the one hand and advanced professional education on the other.

It was apparent from this report and others that there were many areas of library education where cooperative work and joint effort by the groups represented could be effective. It was the hope of those concerned with library education that such joint efforts will be initiated to the end that existing problems may be reviewed in their entirety. The informal exchange of ideas during the evening, the discussion of curricular changes and reevaluations reported, and certain studies under way on examinations and requirements for certification indicated problems where immediate cooperative effort could prove helpful.

American Library Association

The A.L.A. Membership Committee for Rhode Island welcomes fifteen new members who have joined the Association or transferred from other states in the past year. The official report from A.L.A. headquarters in November 1954 indicated a total of eighty nine members, which is a net gain of twelve over 1953, but only four more than the total of 1952.

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New members are invited to join the A.L.A. at any time. Dues, which range from \$6. a year up, according to salary, may be sent directly to Miss Cora M. Beatty, Chief, Membership Services Department, A.L.A., 50 East Huron St., Chicago 11, Illinois. The chairman for Rhode Island will be glad to give detailed information to anyone interested. The new national goal is for a 15 per cent increase in 1955,

so Rhode Island will need more new members to meet that goal.

Present members are urged to pay their 1955 dues promptly, to avoid omission of their names from the 1955 *Directory*.

Lydia M. Gooding
Chairman for Rhode Island
A.L.A. Membership Committee
Annmary Brown Memorial
Brown University, Providence 12, R. I.

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